



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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December 26, 2002

TO: Minerals File

FROM: Paul B. Baker, Senior Reclamation Biologist 

RE: Site Inspection, Deloy Shumway, Travertine #8 & 9, S/019/053, Grand County, Utah

Date of Inspection: December 12, 2002
Time of Inspection: 4:45-5:30 p.m.
Conditions: Partly cloudy, 40's
Participants: Paul Baker, DOGM

Purpose of Inspection:

To examine site conditions while in the area. Denice Swanke of the Bureau of Land Management in Moab has informed me of some of the cleanup and reclamation that has happened since I last visited this site, and because I had a little extra time, I wanted to see what changes had been made.

Getting to the site:

Take the exit from I-70 14 miles east of Green River and head south for 3.1 miles. Turn right toward Salt Wash for 6.3 miles. Turn left for 4.3 miles and you're there. There are a few small side roads, but it's not hard to stay on the main road.

Observations:

There have been a lot of changes since I last visited this site. In the lower area, the pallets and rock had been consolidated to within a fenced area at the base of a talus slope (Photo 1). Photo 2 shows the talus slope. There used to be a motor home, but I understand from Ms. Swanke that it burned and has been cleaned up. Outside of the fenced area, there was little sign of disturbance.

At the base of the dug road leading to the upper area were two signs with phone numbers. These numbers were 435-260-0058 and 435-259-8884.

Disturbances from the mine in the upper area have not changed substantially since I was last at the site. There were a few excavations and roads scattered around this area (Photo 3).

There was a camp in the upper area with a house trailer (Photo 4). Some of the other equipment in this area included a delivery truck, a Dodge Ram SUV, a tractor with backhoe and front end

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loader attachments, a compressor, and a generator. There was also a smoldering fire barrel (Photo 5), and the smoke smelled like burning plastic. There was no one present to tend the fire although I don't think there was much danger of it starting a range fire.

Other items in the camp area included three car batteries, four 5-gallon buckets which were either not labeled or were labeled as containing hydraulic oil (Photo 6), an unlabeled 55-gallon barrel (in addition to the fire barrel), and some gas cans only one of which had anything in it. Around the fire barrel (Photo 7) were several steel cans, aerosol cans, bed springs, and what I think was a battery charger. There was a dark spot under the left rear of the delivery truck that looked like an oil stain (Photos 8 and 10). There were also a lot of miscellaneous items scattered over the site (Photos 9-12).

Conclusions and Recommendations:

While I am pleased with how the operator has been limiting the size of the operation, I am concerned about the condition of the camp area. Quite simply, it needs to be cleaned up. Rule R647-3-112 requires that mine operations be maintained in a clean condition, and the site does not meet this standard.

I recognize that much of the equipment and tools are needed for the operation, but they need to be stored neatly and properly. The operator needs to be especially careful with oil products and properly dispose of used containers when they are empty. Lids should always be left on these containers whether or not they are empty. If the batteries are still usable, they should be kept somewhere other than on the ground. If they are not usable, they need to be recycled.

I am unsure of Bureau of Land Management regulations with regard to burning trash, but I am certain that leaving an unattended fire is not allowed. Even if burning is allowed, things like plastics, batteries, aerosol cans, and similar items should not be placed in the fire.

Although I believe the conditions at the site would warrant a notice of noncompliance, I will try to first work with the operator to see if he will clean up the site. If this does not happen in a timely manner, I will write a notice of noncompliance or, if the Division's new compliance regulations are in force, a notice of violation which would require payment of a fine. The Bureau of Land Management may want to take enforcement measures apart from anything the Division does.

jb
Attachment: Photos
cc: Deloy Shumway (operator) c/o Earl Shumway
Denice Swanke (BLM)
O:\M019-Grand\S0190053Travertine\final\ins122602.doc

ATTACHMENT

Inspection Date December 12, 2002; Report Date December 26, 2002

Photographs

S/019/053, Travertine #8 & 9, Deloy Shumway



Photo 1. Fenced lower area.



Photo 2. Talus slope on the left.



Photo 3. Overall view of excavations in the upper area.



Photo 4. Camp.



Photo 5. Fire barrel.



Photo 6. Oil buckets just to the left of center.



Photo 7. Debris around the fire barrel.



Photo 8. Oil stain on the ground near the delivery truck.



Photo 9.



Photo 10.

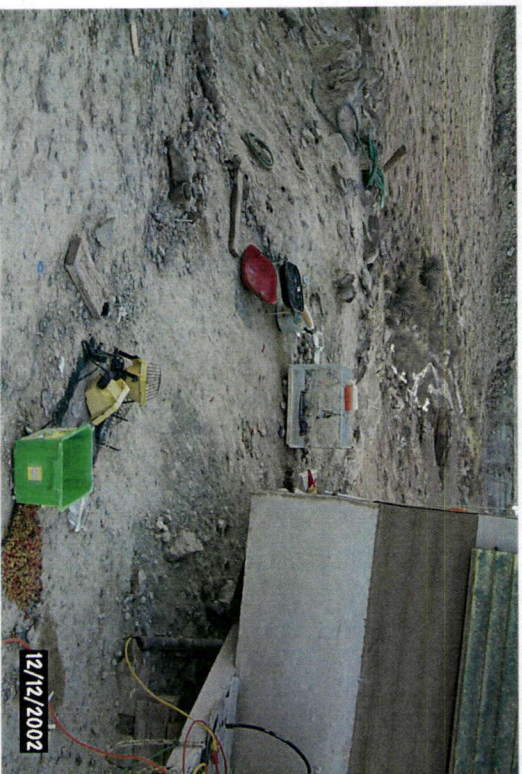


Photo 11.



Photo 12.